

Oral Statement draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.58, entitled
"Protection of global climate for present and future
generations of mankind"

1. This oral statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 6bis of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

3. The sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (hereafter referred to as the Convention), and its subsidiary bodies, envisaged for the biennium 2010-2011 have been included in the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2012 and 2013, in document A/66/32, annex II, as follows:

(i) Item 118 in the calendar of the conferences and meetings in 2012 for conference services for meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for a duration of two weeks;

(ii) Item 250 in the calendar of the conferences and meetings in 2012 for conference services for the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and meetings of subsidiary bodies for a duration of two weeks;

(iii) Item 122 in the calendar of the conferences and meetings in 2013 for conference services for meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for a duration of two weeks; and

(iv) Item 214 in the calendar of the conferences and meetings in 2013 for conference services for the nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and meetings of subsidiary bodies for a duration of two weeks.

4. It is recalled that a statement of programme budget implications was submitted by the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/58/32 on a former draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.14/Rev.1, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to make provision for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005. The General Assembly formally adopted the draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.14/Rev.1 on 23 December 2003 as resolution 58/243 and thus approved the resources required in the biennium 2004-2005.

Thereafter, in the biennia 2006-2007, 2008-2009 and 2010-2011, resources required for the conference services for the sessions of the Conference of Parties and its subsidiary bodies were considered as recurrent activities and were included under the proposed programme budgets for the respective biennium accordingly. These requirements have been included once again under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs and conference management and Section 29E, Administration, Geneva, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

5. Given that the Headquarters of the Convention is in Bonn, Germany, the resources requested in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 include estimated travel costs to Bonn. For cases when the meetings are held outside of Bonn, the substantive secretariat shall cover the incremental travel costs, if any. Furthermore, any additional meetings that are not included in the 2012-2013 calendar would be funded through extra-budgetary resources. The above arrangements have been in place since 2004 after the adoption of resolution 58/243.

6. Accordingly, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.58 would not entail any additional requirements to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 on the understanding that the substantive secretariat shall cover the incremental travel costs if the meetings are held outside of Bonn, and any additional meetings that are not included in the 2012-2013 calendar would be funded through extra-budgetary resources.